STATE OF ILLINOIS ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

Illinois Bell Telephone Company 98-0252 Application for review of alternative regulation plan. Illinois Bell Telephone Company 98-0335 Petition to rebalance Illinois Bell Telephone Company's Carrier Access and Network Access Line Rates. (cons.) Citizens Utility Board and The People of the State of Illinois -VS-Illinois Bell Telephone Company 00-0764 Verified Complaint for a Reduction in Illinois Bell Telephone Company's Rates and Other Relief.

SURREBUTTAL TESTIMONY OF CATE CONWAY HEGSTROM ON BEHALF OF

AT&T COMMUNICATIONS OF ILLINOIS, INC.

AT&T Exhibit 1.0

January 19, 2001

- Q. Please state your name and business address.
- A. My name is Cate Hegstrom. My business address is 222 West Adams St., Suite 1500, Chicago, IL 60606.
- Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?
- A. I am employed by AT&T as a District Manager Government Affairs.
- Q. Describe your education and professional background.
- A. I received a B.A. degree in Mathematics from Benedictine College in Atchison,
 Kansas. In December 1974, I began my telecommunications career in the
 Network Operations Department of AT&T Long Lines in Omaha, Nebraska. My
 responsibilities included the provisioning and maintenance of the switched and
 special services network. In 1977, I joined the Regulatory Department of
 Northwestern Bell Telephone Company (NWB), where I performed cost and rate
 studies used in connection with private line, ENFIA and related services. In 1983,
 I returned to AT&T, joining what became the Marketing Plans Implementation
 organization of AT&T Communications in Omaha. In that position, I was
 primarily responsible for analyzing Local Exchange Carrier ("LEC") access
 filings within the five NWB states.

In 1986, I accepted a position with the AT&T Communications staff organization in New Jersey. My duties included the analysis of regulatory issues and the development of positions related to AT&T's intrastate services.

In 1988, I joined AT&T Corp.'s External Affairs organization in Chicago, where my job duties included contracting and liaison activities between AT&T and several large independent telephone companies in AT&T's ten Central Region states. In 1990, I assumed responsibility for the analysis and administration of access-related issues and LEC regulatory issues affecting AT&T's intrastate operations in several Central Region states, including Illinois. In January 1997, I accepted the position of District Manager-Regulatory Matters.

- Q. Have you previously filed testimony before the Illinois Commerce

 Commission ("ICC") or (the "Commission")?
- A. Yes. I have testified before the Commission in ICC Docket No. 93-0044 (MCI and LDDS Complaint against Illinois Bell), ICC Docket No. 93-0409 (MFS Application for an Amended Certificate), ICC Docket Nos. 93-0301/94-0041 (GTE North Rate Case), ICC Docket Nos. 94-0042 through 94-0046 (Investigation of Switched Access Local Transport Restructure Rates), ICC Docket Nos. 94-0048, 94-0049, 94-0117 and 94-0146 (Rulemakings for Presubscription and Line Side Interconnection, Ameritech Customers First Plan, AT&T Petition), ICC Docket No. 94-0480 (Investigation into Physical Collocation), ICC Docket Nos. 95-0458/95-0531 (Petition for Wholesale Service Tariffs of Ameritech and Centel Companies), ICC Docket Nos. 95-0135/ 95-0179 (Illinois Bell Reclassification of Bands B and C Usage/Increase to Business Band C Rates), ICC Docket No. 96-AB-005 (AT&T/GTE North Arbitration), ICC

Docket No. 97-0621 (DEM Stipulation), Phase I of ICC Docket Nos. 97-0516/97-0601/97-0602, ICC Docket No. 98-0321 (Gallatin River Acquisition Application), ICC Docket No. 98-0866 (Bell Atlantic/GTE Merger), ICC Docket No. 99-0038/99-0039 (Ameritech Access Refund Complaint), ICC Docket No. 98-0860 (Competitive Classification of Ameritech Services), Phase I of ICC Docket Nos. 00-0233/00-0335 (Rural ILEC USF Investigation) and ICC Docket No. 99-0536 (Imputation Rulemaking Revision). I have also represented AT&T in a number of Illinois workshop proceedings including those convened in ICC Docket No. 90-0425 (Access Charges), ICC Docket No. 92-0210 (Imputation Rulemaking), ICC Docket No. 92-0211 (Cost of Service Methodology and Rulemaking), ICC Docket No. 92-0398 (Interconnection Rulemaking) and ICC Docket No. 00-0555 (Reciprocal Compensation for ISP-Bound Traffic Rulemaking).

Q. Have you testified before other state commissions?

A. Yes. I testified before the Michigan Public Services Commission in Case No. U-10647 (City Signal Complaint), Case No. U-10860 (Generic Interconnection Investigation), Case No. U-11053 (ACI Application), Case Nos. U-11151/U-11152 (Ameritech Arbitration), Case No. U-11165 (GTE North Arbitration), Case No. U-11660 (AT&T Complaint Against Ameritech Access PICC Rates), Case No. U-11831 (Ameritech Michigan TSLRIC review), Case No. U-11832 (GTE North TSLRIC review), Case No. U-11899 (USF Investigation), Case No. U-12287 (AT&T Complaint Against Ameritech Access Rates) and Case No. U-12465 (AT&T/Ameritech Michigan Arbitration Petition). I have testified before

the Indiana Regulatory Utility Commission in Cause No. 39369 (Access Investigation), Cause No. 39385 (Special Access CSOs), Cause No. 40571-INT-02 (GTE North Arbitration), Cause No. 40785 (Universal Service and Access Charge Restructure Investigation), Cause No. 41255 (Ameritech/SBC Merger Application) and Cause No. 40571-INT-03 (AT&T/Ameritech Indiana Arbitration Petition). I also testified before the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio in Case Nos.92-1525-TP-CSS/92-1149-TP-ALT (Western Reserve Alternative Regulation), Case No. 96-832-TP-ARB (GTE North Arbitration), Case No. 96-336-TP-CSS (Ameritech Access Service Rate Complaint), Case No. 98-1398-TP-AMT (Bell Atlantic/GTE Merger) and Case No. 1188-TP-ARB (AT&T/SBC-Ameritech Arbitration Petition) and before the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin in Docket Nos. 265-MA-102/2180-MA-100 (GTE Arbitration), Docket No. 6050-TI-101 (Frontier Alt. Reg.), Docket No. 05-TI-174 (Price Regulation Review), in dockets 1910-T1-101/2050-T1-100/3070-T1-100/6040-T1-100/5530-T1-100/4590-T1-100 (CenturyTel Company (6) Alternative Regulation Applications), in dockets 2055-NC-100/5846-NC-100/2055-TR-100/5846-TR-100 (CT/GTE asset purchase), in docket 05-MA-120 (AT&T/Ameritech Arbitration Petition) and in docket 2815-TR-103 (CenturyTel-Kendall Emergency Petition for Rate Increase).

Q. What is the purpose of the your testimony?

A. The purpose of my testimony is to respond to the rebuttal testimony of Staff witnesses Mr. Robert Koch, Mr. Samuel S. McClerren and Mr. Mark A. Hanson.

- Q. Please provide your understanding of Mr. Koch's position regarding the inclusion and treatment of carrier access charges within an extension of an Alternative Regulation Plan for Ameritech Illinois.
- A. Mr. Koch is now recommending the continuation of a Carrier Basket to which carrier access services would be assigned. He bases this recommendation on a revised (and correct) understanding of the switched access pricing parameters and policy contained in the Commission's Order in Phase II of ICC Docket No. 97-0601/97-0602. Based on his current understanding, access charges may be reduced without being in violation of that Commission Order.

Q. Do you agree?

A. Yes. Ms. TerKeurst explained on pages 51-52 her direct testimony filed

November 3, 2000 that it is proper that switched access rates reflect reduced
costs, which are captured by the PCI. Ms. TerKeurst suggests that continued
inclusion of access services in the price cap mechanism may reduce the need to
update switched access cost studies periodically. I would add that beyond the
reduction of access LRSICs, to the extent that Ameritech Illinois' forward looking
common costs are decreased, continuing to include access services in the price
cap mechanism would allow this cost reduction to be reflected in access rates as
well. Mr. Koch's current recommendation regarding the continued inclusion of
access services in the Carrier Basket is consistent with this price cap mechanism
benefit, and I fully support it.

- Q. Mr. Koch has not changed his position regarding the inclusion of unbundled network elements ("UNEs"), Interconnection, and Transport and Termination services in the Carrier Basket. Do you concur with him on this issue?
- A. No. For the same reasons on which I base my recommendation to include carrier access services in the Carrier Basket, I recommend inclusion of UNEs,

 Interconnection, and Transport and Termination services. There is nothing in the Commission's orders resulting from Ameritech Illinois TELRIC investigations that prohibit the reduction of rates for these services below the rates filed in compliance with Commission orders, nor would reduced rates be in violation of TELRIC requirements provided they do not fall below the pre-marked up levels.

 Ms. TerKeurst has supported her recommendation regarding inclusion of these services with similar arguments. (GCI Exhibit 1.0 (TerKeurst Direct), pp 54-60)

Indeed, in his direct testimony, Mr. Koch supported his initial recommendation to exclude carrier access service from the price cap mechanism by likening the pricing requirement to that of UNEs, i.e., "based on cost." (Staff Exhibit 13.0 (Koch Direct), p. 38) It is only logical that reductions to TELRIC-based rates are as appropriate as reductions to LRSIC-based rates. Thus, the Commission should now require UNEs, Interconnection, and Transport and Termination services to be included in the Carrier Basket, should Price Cap Regulation be extended for Ameritech Illinois.

- Q. Mr. Koch continues to recommend continued inclusion of wholesale services in the price cap mechanism. Do you concur with this recommendation?
- Yes. However, Mr. Koch now recommends that Ameritech Illinois's wholesale A. services remain in the Carrier Basket. Although wholesale services are carrier services, I believe it is more appropriate to include these services in the same basket as the corresponding retail service. Under such an assignment, access services and UNEs, Interconnection, and Transport and Termination services would be treated independent of reductions associated with the mandated relationship between Ameritech Illinois' retail services and wholesale services. Furthermore, because resale of residential wholesale services is restricted to residential consumers, the same consumer classes will be addressed independent of other customer classes. Contrary to the objective offered by Ameritech Illinois witness Mr. O'Brien (i.e., the purpose of a single basket is to rectify past differences between basic residential services and other services (Am Il Ex. 3.1 (O'Brien Rebuttal), p. 12)), my recommendation for assigning wholesale services would restrict Ameritech Illinois's ability to unilaterally rebalance its noncompetitive rates.
- Q. Do you have any additional concerns regarding the treatment of carrier access services in this docket?
- A. Yes. Witnesses in this case have largely accepted Ameritech Illinois' quantification of access service revenue reductions included in its rate rebalancing

proposal. Ameritech Illinois states that it is including \$43,775,063 of reductions to its intrastate switched access services resulting from the Commission Order in Phase II of Docket 97-0601/97-0602. (Am. Ill. Ex. 9.0 ((Van Lieshout Direct), pp. 13-15) Of this amount, an estimate of \$33,295,236 in annual revenue reductions have been implemented through tariffed rate reductions. The remaining \$10,379,827 of estimated annual revenue reductions are anticipated by Ameritech Illinois to result once its updated access LRSICs, filed in response to the Commission's Order in Phase II of Docket 97-0601/97-0602, are investigated and compliant rates are filed.

Q. What is your concern regarding this quantification?

A. In his direct testimony filed August 1, 2000, Mr. Van Lieshout provides

Ameritech Illinois' expectation that the investigation of the new access LRSICs

will be completed within the same time frame as this proceeding. To date, I am

unaware of any schedule being established, or investigation initiated, by the

Commission for this purpose. Regardless, parties have provided their respective

recommendations as to rate designs partially based upon this yet-to-be realized

reduction. Accordingly, to the extent the Commission allows a rate rebalancing

of Ameritech Illinois rates in this proceeding, I recommend the Commission

require Ameritech Illinois to implement the \$10,379,827 of anticipated access

revenue reductions concurrent with any approved rate increases.

¹ On January 8, 2001, AT&T filed a Letter Of Objection to Ameritech Illinois's access service tariff filing, stating that Ameritech Illinois has understated its reductions by approximately twenty million dollars.

- Q. Will this eliminate the need for an investigation of Ameritech Illinois' updated access LRSICs?
- A. No, it will not. However, the Commission may safely assume that Ameritech Illinois' proposed cost-based access service reduction would be the minimum reduction that would result from a Commission investigation. If further reductions are warranted upon completion of an investigation, those reductions can be implemented at that time.
- Q. Do you agree with Staff witness McClerren's position regarding the relationship between Ameritech Illinois' wholesale service quality and an alternative regulation plan for Ameritech Illinois?
- A. Yes. Mr. McClerren discusses the three-year time limit of Condition 30 applicability in the Commission's merger order in Docket No. 98-0555.

 According to Mr. McClerren, Condition 30 requires Ameritech Illinois to take 122 performance measurements used by its parent company, SBC, and, after making necessary modifications for this state, implement them here. In addition, the Commission also requires Ameritech Illinois to use a performance penalty plan where Ameritech Illinois provides substandard wholesale services to CLECs. Condition 30 expires, however, within three years of the merger closing date, i.e., October 2002.

Staff witness Hoagg notes the statutory requirement of any alternative regulation plan to "maintain the quality and availability of telecommunications services."

(Staff Exhibit 15.0, (Hoagg Rebuttal), p. 2) As Ms. TerKeurst correctly notes, end user consumers purchasing local exchange service that is resold would be affected by poor Ameritech Illinois service quality just as would Ameritech Illinois' retail customers. (GCI Exhibit 1.0 (TerKeurst Direct), p. 59)

Therefore, not only do I agree with Mr. McClerren that all performance measurements and the Remedy Plan in effect pursuant to the Merger conditions scheduled to expire in October 2002 should continue, without interruption; I believe it is essential. Mr. McClerren's suggestion that the Commission should order this continuation in this proceeding is appropriate and should be adopted by the Commission.

- Q. Which Staff recommendation regarding rate design do you wish to comment upon at this time?
- A. Should the Commission approve any rate rebalancing for Ameritech Illinois in this proceeding, Mr. Hanson continues to support Staff's recommendation to offset increases in residential network access line charges with decreases in residential Band A usage rates. Mr. Hanson dismisses Ameritech Illinois witness Sorenson's contention that the duration of a Band A call has increased, based on the fact that Ameritech Illinois had not provided adequate support for this statement. It is regarding the appropriateness of reducing residential Band A usage at this time that I offer comments.

Q. Do you support Mr. Hanson's recommendation?

A. I do not have a position as to the appropriateness of reductions to residential Band A usage rates. However, in ICC Docket No. 00-0555, Rulemaking for Reciprocal Compensation for Internet Service Provider-bound Traffic, the Commission appears to have accepted this situation. In its Order initiating the Rulemaking, the Commission stated:

One example of a change in the utilization of the local exchange network associated with Internet traffic is the increased call hold-time associated with dial-up Internet usage. Since current reciprocal compensation rates are based on traditional voice calls that, on average, exhibit shorter holding times, it may be inappropriate to apply these rates to local ISP-bound traffic (dial-up Internet traffic routed to an ISP). To exacerbate this problem, the <u>flat-rated</u> local revenue received by the local exchange provider may be insufficient to recover the <u>per-minute of use</u> cost associated with reciprocal compensation payments.

Initiating Order dated August 17, 2000, p. 1.

On January 17 and 18, 2001 I attended a Staff-chaired workshop to discuss in what manner the Commission might address this issue, if at all. Among other options, a general discussion concerning adjusting Band A usage rates ensued. No consensus on issues were reached during the workshop. However, given the seemingly presumption of a "problem", and given the relationship between the non-duration generated revenues and the duration generated costs of Band A usage, it is short-sighted for Staff to recommend, and inadvisable for the Commission to adopt, any modification to rates in this proceeding that would cause a potentially anti-competitive resolution in the pending ICC Docket No. 00-0555 Rulemaking.

- Q. Does this conclude your testimony?
- A. Yes, it does.



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January 8, 2001

VIA U.S. MAIL

Ms. Donna Caton Chief Clerk Illinois Commerce Commission 527 East Capitol Avenue Springfield, Illinois 62794-9280

Re: Ameritech Illinois Advice Nos. 7292 and 7296

Dear Ms. Caton:

Pursuant to Sections 9-250 and 9-252 of the Illinois Public Utilities Act, AT&T Communications of Illinois, Inc. ("AT&T") hereby objects to Ameritech Illinois' proposed local switching ("LS") rates that were filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission ("Commission") under Ameritech Illinois Advice No. 7292 on May 26, 2000, and as modified by Ameritech Illinois Advice No. 7296 on June 9, 2000. AT&T requests that the Commission initiate an investigation to determine whether Ameritech Illinois' proposed LS rates are just and reasonable and in compliance with the Commission's Phase II Order issued March 29, 2000 in Docket Nos. 97-0601/97-0602 ("Phase II Order"). AT&T recognizes that Ameritech's tariff rates have been implemented by Ameritech Illinois, and that the tariff filing may become effective during a Commission investigation, notwithstanding AT&T's objections. Hence, at the conclusion of the investigation, AT&T requests that the Commission affirmatively establish local switching rates for Ameritech Illinois that are just and reasonable, and that comply with the Commission's Phase II Order, and order refunds to the extent applicable. AT&T stands ready to pass its access expense savings through to its customers as directed in the Commission's Phase II Order.

Ameritech Illinois' proposed LS rates are unjust and unreasonable and fail to comply with the Commission's Phase II Order. In that Order, the Commission found that "Ameritech and GTE should reduce their remaining switched access rate elements to LRSIC-based levels, including the 28.86% contribution toward shared



Ms. Donna Caton Page 2 January 8, 2001

and common costs as reflected in AT&T Gebhardt Cross Ex. 1A, for the reasons discussed herein." (Phase II Order, Finding Paragraph (9)).

In filing access rates in alleged compliance with the Phase II Order under Advice Nos. 7292 and 7296, Ameritech Illinois based its access rates upon the LRSICs used in its annual alternative regulation filings, including the LRSICs for LS. However, these LRSICs are based upon the pre-restructured LS rate element. As background, the LRSICs for LS were originally calculated for the pre-access reform LS rate element. In 1997, Ameritech segregated the trunk port function from its LS function and rate elements, and established separate rate elements for both dedicated trunk ports and shared trunk ports pursuant to the FCC's May 16, 1997 Access Charge Reform Order. (See CC Docket No. 96-262, First Report and Order, rel. May 16, 1997, ¶ 127). Consistent with this FCC-ordered restructuring, Ameritech Illinois' Advice No. 7292 includes dedicated trunk port rate elements and shared trunk port rate elements. These rates are presumably based upon the LRSICs associated with trunk ports. However, Ameritech Illinois has not removed these same trunk port costs from its LS LRSICs that were used as the basis for the LS rates contained in Advice Nos. 7292 and 7296. Thus, by basing its LS access rate on the unsegregated (and pre-restructured) LRSICs, Ameritech Illinois is double-recovering its costs associated with its trunk ports. This is the uncontested double recovery of port costs testified to by AT&T during ICC Docket Nos. 97-0601/0602. (AT&T Ex. 2.0P, p. 15 and Attachment JDW-1 (Proprietary)).

Rates based upon segregated LRSICs should be approximately \$0.001982 per minute of use. Ameritech Illinois, however, has filed per minute rates that are approximately double the appropriate rate levels, namely, LS per minute rates of \$0.003987.

As expressed by Chairman Mathias, the Commission issued a landmark decision "in access charge reform that results in tens of millions of dollars in savings to customers." (Commission Press Release, attached). Unfortunately, as a result of Ameritech Illinois' non-compliant tariff rates, Ameritech Illinois has caused its intrastate switched access rates to be higher than Illinois-mirrored CALLS rates would have been.² Indeed, Ameritech Illinois continues to collect these LS revenues, thereby precluding in excess of approximately \$20 million of additional benefits that should have resulted from the Commission's Phase II Order from being delivered to Illinois consumers.

¹ Under Advice No. 7292, Ameritech Illinois filed Common Trunk Port rates of \$0.000235 per minute, and Dedicated Trunk Port rates of \$51.96 per month. Illinois Bell Telephone Company ILL C.C. No. 21, 5th Revised Page 215, Section 6.9.2(C)

² Under Transmittal No. 1242, Ameritech filed an LS rate of \$0.003569. Ameritech Operating Companies Tariff F.C.C. No. 2, 57th Revised Page 214, Section 6.9.2(A&B)

Ms. Donna Caton Page 3 January 8, 2001

Ameritech Illinois' LS rates are unjust and unreasonable. Moreover, they violate the Commission's Phase II Order and are, therefore, unlawful. The Commission should immediately investigate the extent to which Ameritech Illinois' LS rates are unjust and unreasonable, and order refunds to the extent necessary.

Very truly yours,

Cheryl Urbanski Hamill One of the Attorneys for

AT&T Communications of Illinois, Inc.

CUH/mp

Attachment

ce: Chairman Richard L. Mathias

Commissioner Ruth Kretschmer

Commissioner Terry S. Harvill

Commissioner Edward C. Hurley

Commissioner Mary Frances Squires

Mr. Charles Fisher

Mr. Jeff Hoagg

Mr. Doug Price

Mr. Sherman Elliott

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Mr. Patrick Phipps

Ms. Kathleen Rodriguez

Ms. Kate Siddon

Mr. Timothy Sznewajs

Ms. Julie VanderLaan

Ms. Louise Sunderland

Service List in Docket Nos. 97-0601/0602

March 29, 2000 Beth Bosch

ICC ORDERS INTRASTATE ACCESS CHARGES REDUCED LONG DISTANCE CARRIERS TO PASS ON RATE REDUCTIONS

The Illinois Commerce Commission Wednesday ordered Illinois local exchange carriers Ameritech and GTE to reduce access charges, and directed interexchange carriers, or long distance carriers, to pass those cost reductions on to customers.

In its earlier order in consolidated Dockets 97-0516, 970601, 97-0602 the ICC found that Ameritech had violated earlier Commission orders when it raised access charges in 1997 and 1998. The Commission said that the higher access charges did not mirror interstate access charges as required by federal rules, and ordered the company to remove all non cost-based rate elements from its access charges.

The Commission has now ordered Ameritech and GTE to break the "mirror" of interstate access charges by ordering the companies to reduce access charges further, and to base the price of access on the cost of providing the services.

Today's order applies only to intrastate access charges for telephone service within Illinois.

"Our decision today is a landmark in access charge reform that results in tens of millions of dollars in savings to customers," ICC Chairman Richard Mathias said. "The costs of providing service have declined over time, and Illinois customers are entitled to share in the savings."

In the years since divestiture in 1984, the ICC has entered more than a score of orders aimed at eliminating subsidies that were inherent in access charges as well as other charges that telephone companies paid and customers assumed. The Commission policy throughout those years has been to move the rates charged by telecommunications carriers closer to the actual cost of providing the service, which has resulted in reductions in some rates.

ICC Commissioner Ruth Kretschmer urged the interexchange carriers to ensure that all customers share in the savings from the reduction in intrastate access charges. "I want these companies to know that we expect any rate reductions must be across the board."

Local exchange companies must file new rates that result from the order within 30 days. Interexchange carriers must reply with their rate adjustments after that.

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Illinois Docket 97-0601/0602

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STATE OF ILLINOIS ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

Illinois Bell Telephone Company	98-0252
Application for review of alternative regulation plan.	
Illinois Bell Telephone Company	98-0335
Petition to rebalance Illinois Bell Telephone Company's Carrier Access and Network	
Company's Carrier Access and Network Access Line Rates.	(cons.)
Citizens Utility Board and	}
The People of the State of Illinois	}
-vs- Illinois Bell Telephone Company	00-0764
Verified Complaint for a Reduction in Illinois Bell Telephone Company's Rates and Other Relief.	

NOTICE OF FILING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that we have this 19th day of January, 2001, filed with the Clerk of the Illinois Commerce Commission, 527 East Capitol Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62701, the Surrebuttal Testimony of Cate Conway Hegstrom on behalf of AT&T Communications of Illinois, Inc.(AT&T Exhibit 1.0) in the above-captioned proceeding.

PROOF OF SERVICE

I, Cheryl Urbanski Hamill, an attorney, hereby certify that copies of the Surrebuttal Testimony of Cate Conway Hegstrom on behalf of AT&T Communications of Illinois, Inc. (AT&T Exhibit 1.0) were served on all parties on the service list on this 19th day of January, 2001, via E-Mail and U.S. Mail.

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